



Virginia
Regulatory
Town Hall

townhall.virginia.gov

Proposed Regulation Agency Background Document

Agency name	Board of Nursing, Department of Health Professions
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation	18 VAC 90-20-10 et seq., 18VAC90-25-10 et seq., 18VAC90-30-10 et seq., 18VAC90-40-10 et seq., and 18VAC90-50-10 et seq.
Regulation title	Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing Regulations Governing the Certification of Nurse Aides Regulations Governing the Licensure of Nurse Practitioners Regulations Governing Prescriptive Authority for Nurse Practitioners Regulations Governing the Certification of Massage Therapists
Action title	Increase in fees
Date this document prepared	12/2/09

This information is required for executive branch review and the Virginia Registrar of Regulations, pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA), Executive Orders 36 (2006) and 58 (1999), and the *Virginia Register Form, Style, and Procedure Manual*.

Brief summary

In a short paragraph, please summarize all substantive provisions of new regulations or changes to existing regulations that are being proposed in this regulatory action.

The Board of Nursing is proposing amendments to increase fees charged to regulants and applicants and to establish new fees to cover the cost of continued approval of nursing education programs. Biennial renewal fees for registered nurses would be increase by \$45 and for licensed practical nurses by \$25. For initial approval of a nursing education program, there would be an increase in the application fee of \$450. Fees for survey visits and site visits to nursing education programs would be added in amounts sufficient to offset the board's expenses for such visits.

Similar increases are proposed for clinical nurse specialists, licensed nurse practitioners, and certified massage therapists. For certified nurse aides, the board proposes to change the renewal cycle from biennial (current fee of \$50) to annual (proposed fee of \$30). The annual fee for medication aides would also be raised by \$5 for an annual fee of \$30. Other fees, including application, inactive licensure, and late fees for all professions are increased proportionally.

Acronyms and Definitions

Please define all acronyms used in the Agency Background Document. Also, please define any technical terms that are used in the document that are not also defined in the "Definition" section of the regulations.

RN = Registered nurse

LPN = Licensed practical nurse

CNS = Clinical nurse specialist

CNA = Certified nurse aide

Legal basis

Please identify the state and/or federal legal authority to promulgate this proposed regulation, including (1) the most relevant law and/or regulation, including Code of Virginia citation and General Assembly chapter number(s), if applicable, and (2) promulgating entity, i.e., the agency, board or person. Describe the legal authority and the extent to which the authority is mandatory or discretionary.

Regulations of the Board of Nursing are promulgated under the general authority of Title 54.1, Chapter 24 of the Code of Virginia.

Chapter 24 establishes the general powers and duties of health regulatory boards including the responsibility to promulgate regulations in accordance with the Administrative Process Act which are reasonable and necessary and the authority to **levy and collect fees** that are **sufficient to cover all expenses** for the administration of a regulatory program.

§ 54.1-2400. General powers and duties of health regulatory boards.--The general powers and duties of health regulatory boards shall be:

5. To levy and collect fees for application processing, examination, registration, certification or licensure and renewal that are sufficient to cover all expenses for the administration and operation of the Department of Health Professions, the Board of Health Professions and the health regulatory boards.

6. To promulgate regulations in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.) which are reasonable and necessary to administer effectively the regulatory system. Such regulations shall not conflict with the purposes and intent of this chapter or of Chapter 1 (§ 54.1-100 et seq.) and Chapter 25 (§ 54.1-2500 et seq.) of this title.

The amended regulation is mandated by § 54.1-113.

§ 54.1-113. Regulatory boards to adjust fees.--Following the close of any biennium, when the account for any regulatory board within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation or the Department of Health Professions maintained under § 54.1-308 or § 54.1-2505 shows expenses allocated to it for the past biennium to be more than ten percent greater or less than moneys collected on behalf of the board, it shall revise the fees levied by it for certification or licensure and renewal thereof so that the fees are sufficient but not excessive to cover expenses.

Purpose

Please explain the need for the new or amended regulation by (1) detailing the specific reasons why this regulatory action is essential to protect the health, safety, or welfare of citizens, and (2) discussing the goals of the proposal, the environmental benefits, and the problems the proposal is intended to solve.

The issue to be addressed is the need of the Board of Nursing to increase its fees to cover expenses for essential functions of licensing, investigation of complaints, and adjudication of disciplinary cases to ensure minimal competency for persons licensed, certified or registered by the board. The board also reviewed and considered expenditures relating to initial or continued approval of nursing education programs.

The scope of the board’s regulatory responsibility includes the following 12 occupations or entities with approximately 182,000 licensees, certificate holders and registrants:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Registered nurses | Advanced nurse aides |
| Licensed practical nurses | Medication aides |
| Licensed nurse practitioners | Certified massage therapists |
| Authorization to prescribe | Virginia professional schools of nursing |
| Clinical nurse specialists | Virginia practical schools of nursing |
| Certified nurse aides | Volunteer registration |

§ 54.1-113 of the *Code of Virginia* requires that at the end of each biennium, an analysis of revenues and expenditures of each regulatory board shall be performed. It is necessary that each board have sufficient revenue to cover its expenditures. By the close of FY10, it is projected that the Board of Nursing (in the combined budgets of Nursing and Certified Nurse Aides) will have \$10,879,889 in expenses and only \$8,359,143 in revenue. With a modest surplus carried forward from previous years, the board is expected to end the fiscal year with a **deficit** of (\$687,532) by June 30, 2010 and will continue to build increasing deficits through the fiscal years going forward. Since the fees from regulants will no longer generate sufficient funds to pay operating expenses for the board, promulgation of regulations for a fee increase is essential. In order to begin to reduce the deficits and have sufficient funding for the operation of the board by calendar year 2011, it is necessary to promulgate amendments to regulations at the earliest possible date.

Fee increases for licensees regulated by the Board of Nursing are necessary in order for the board and the Department to continue performing essential functions of licensing, certifying or registering new practitioners and to protect the public from continued practice by incompetent or unethical practitioners. Since the Board of Nursing is the only health regulatory board with a statutory responsibility for approval of education programs, it must also have additional revenue to support functions related to assuring that new and existing nursing education programs meet minimal standards.

Substance

Please briefly identify and explain new substantive provisions (for new regulations), substantive changes to existing sections or both where appropriate. (More detail about all provisions or changes is requested in the "Detail of changes" section.)

The Board of Nursing is proposing amendments to increase fees charged to regulants and applicants and to establish new fees to cover the cost of continued approval of nursing education programs. Biennial renewal fees would be increased as follows: 1) For registered nurses, the increase is \$45; 2) For licensed practical nurses, the increase is \$25; 3) For licensed nurse practitioners, the increase is \$30; 4) For certified massage therapists, the increase is \$25; and 5) For clinical nurse specialists, the increase is \$20.

For initial approval of a nursing education program, there is an increase of \$450 in the application fee. Fees for survey visits to nursing education programs (\$2,200) and site visits for failure to achieve 80% NCLEX passage rates (\$1,500) would be added in amounts sufficient to offset the board’s expenses for such visits.

For certified nurse aides, the board proposes to change the renewal cycle from biennial (current fee of \$50) to annual (proposed fee of \$30). The annual fee for medication aides would also be raised by \$5 for an annual fee of \$30. Other fees, including application, inactive licensure, and late fees for all professions are increased proportionally.

Issues

Please identify the issues associated with the proposed regulatory action, including:

- 1) the primary advantages and disadvantages to the public, such as individual private citizens or businesses, of implementing the new or amended provisions;*
- 2) the primary advantages and disadvantages to the agency or the Commonwealth; and*
- 3) other pertinent matters of interest to the regulated community, government officials, and the public.*

If the regulatory action poses no disadvantages to the public or the Commonwealth, please so indicate.

- 1) The primary advantage to the public would be that increased fees will produce adequate revenue to fund the licensing and disciplinary activities of the board. With the **shortfall** at \$687,532 at the end of FY10 and projected to increase to almost \$13.5 million in FY14, there could be significant delays in licensing new nurses, CNA’s, medication aides and nurse practitioners and in the investigation and adjudication of complaints against licensees. There are no disadvantages; increases in biennial renewal fees ranging from \$25 to \$45 for nurses and in annual renewal fees for CNA’s and medication aides should not significantly impact the cost of nursing care for Virginians.
- 2) There are no disadvantages to the agency; the advantage would be that fees would be sufficient to cover expenditures, which is a requirement of the Code of Virginia.
- 3) There are no additional issues.

Requirements more restrictive than federal

Please identify and describe any requirement of the proposal, which are more restrictive than applicable federal requirements. Include a rationale for the need for the more restrictive requirements. If there are no applicable federal requirements or no requirements that exceed applicable federal requirements, include a statement to that effect.

There are no applicable federal requirements.

Localities particularly affected

Please identify any locality particularly affected by the proposed regulation. Locality particularly affected means any locality which bears any identified disproportionate material impact which would not be experienced by other localities.

There are no localities particularly affected.

Public participation

Please include a statement that in addition to any other comments on the proposal, the agency is seeking comments on the costs and benefits of the proposal and the impacts of the regulated community.

In addition to any other comments, the board/agency is seeking comments on the costs and benefits of the proposal and the potential impacts of this regulatory proposal. Also, the agency/board is seeking information on impacts on small businesses as defined in § 2.2-4007.1 of the Code of Virginia.

Information may include 1) projected reporting, recordkeeping and other administrative costs, 2) probable effect of the regulation on affected small businesses, and 3) description of less intrusive or costly alternative methods of achieving the purpose of the regulation.

Anyone wishing to submit comments may do so via the Regulatory Townhall website , www.townhall.virginia.gov, or by mail, email or fax to Elaine Yeatts, Agency Regulatory Coordinator, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, VA 23233 or elaine.yeatts@dhp.virginia.gov or by fax to (804) 527-4434. Written comments must include the name and address of the commenter. In order to be considered comments must be received by the last day of the public comment period.

A public hearing will be held and notice of the public hearing may appear on the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall website (www.townhall.virginia.gov) and the Commonwealth Calendar. Both oral and written comments may be submitted at that time.

Economic impact

Please identify the anticipated economic impact of the proposed new regulations or amendments to the existing regulation. When describing a particular economic impact, please specify which new requirement or change in requirement creates the anticipated economic impact.

<p>Projected cost to the state to implement and enforce the proposed regulation, including (a) fund source, and (b) a delineation of one-time versus on-going expenditures.</p>	<p>a) As a special fund agency, the Board must generate sufficient revenue to cover its expenditures from non-general funds, specifically the renewal and application fees it charges to practitioners for necessary functions of regulation; b) The agency will incur some one-time costs (less than \$1,000) for mailings to the Public Participation Guidelines mailing lists, conducting a public hearing, and sending notice of final regulations to regulated entities. Every effort will be made to incorporate those into anticipated mailings and Board meetings already scheduled. There are no additional on-going costs to the state relating to these regulations.</p>
<p>Projected cost of the <i>new regulations or changes to existing regulations</i> on localities.</p>	<p>There are no costs to localities.</p>
<p>Description of the individuals, businesses or other entities likely to be affected by the <i>new regulations or changes to existing regulations</i>.</p>	<p>The entities that are likely to be affected by these amendments would be applicants and persons licensed, certified or registered by the Board of Nursing. Additionally, there would be additional fees for nursing education programs, both applicants and existing programs.</p>
<p>Agency’s best estimate of the number of such entities that will be affected. Please include an estimate of the number of small businesses affected. Small business means a business entity, including its affiliates, that (i) is independently owned and operated and (ii) employs fewer than 500 full-time employees or has gross annual sales of less than \$6 million.</p>	<p>Registered nurses – 91,316 Licensed practical nurses – 29,828 Licensed nurse practitioners – 5887 Authorization to prescribe – 3456 Certified massage therapists – 5335 Clinical nurse specialists – 436 Medication aides – 3577 Certified nurse aides – 46, 281 Advanced certified nurse aides – 99 Professional schools of nursing (RN) – 68 Practical schools of nursing (LPN) – 80</p> <p>Of the 68 RN programs, 13 are proprietary and of the 80 PN programs, 23 are proprietary. It is likely that all 36 of the proprietary programs are small businesses. Border states, such as Maryland, do not approve proprietary nursing education programs, so some of those being established are using a Virginia address to train people to practice in other states.</p>
<p>All projected costs of the <i>new regulations or changes to existing regulations</i> for affected individuals, businesses, or other entities. Please be specific and do include all costs. Be sure to include the projected reporting, recordkeeping, and other administrative costs required for compliance by small businesses. Specify any costs related to the development of real estate for commercial or residential</p>	<p>The projected costs of the changes to regulations would be primarily the cost of renewal of licensure which would increase by \$45 for RN’s and \$25 for LPN’s (biennially). For CNA’s and medication aides, the costs would increase by \$5 per year. For nurse practitioners, the biennial cost would increase by \$30 with an additional \$10 if they are authorized to prescribe. For massage therapists, the biennial</p>

<p>purposes that are a consequence of the proposed regulatory changes or new regulations.</p>	<p>cost would increase by \$25. Nursing education programs that require a survey visit would have a new fee of \$2,200 imposed, and if a program requires a site visit because it does not meet the standard for NCLEX passage, the fee would be \$1,500.</p>
<p>Beneficial impact the regulation is designed to produce.</p>	<p>The agency should have sufficient funding to carry out its statutory responsibilities of licensing, investigations and disciplinary proceedings.</p>

Alternatives

Please describe any viable alternatives to the proposal considered and the rationale used by the agency to select the least burdensome or intrusive alternative that meets the essential purpose of the action. Also, include discussion of less intrusive or less costly alternatives for small businesses, as defined in §2.2-4007.1 of the Code of Virginia, of achieving the purpose of the regulation.

The Department of Health Professions could consider two possible solutions to the shortfall of the Board of Nursing; they are as follows:

1. Increase fees through the promulgation of regulations.

As required by law, the board is obligated to establish and collect fees that are necessary to fund operations of the board and the department. An alternative is to seek the revenue from licensees and applicants to fully fund appropriated expenditures. Costs of services will be paid by consumers who use the services of providers, but licensure fees represent a miniscule percentage of the over-all costs of health care. The cost of operation of regulatory boards does not significantly affect the cost or access to health care. However, failure to fully fund the licensing and disciplinary services through fees will have a detrimental affect on quality and availability of care.

2. Reduce department/board operations and staff and remain at current fee level.

In order to prevent deficit spending, the department would need to lay off staff to reduce expenses associated with operations. The net result being a delay in the performance of or the elimination of the following responsibilities:

- Investigations and discipline
- Administrative proceedings
- License, certification and registration renewals
- Approval of new nurse aide, medication aide and nursing education programs
- Review and site visits to existing programs for quality assurance

Delays in licensing of new nurses and nurse practitioners and delays in registration of new nurse aides and medication aides could place Virginians at a health risk, especially vulnerable populations in hospitals and nursing homes and may exacerbate the current nursing shortage. Delays in investigations and adjudication may allow nurses and aides who represent a danger to the health and safety of the public to continue in practice. Failure to adequately oversee and monitor nursing education programs

could result in the graduation of inadequately prepared nurses. It is believed that these consequences would not be acceptable to the administration, the General Assembly, or to the general public.

To avoid increases in fees, the board and the Department of Health Professions have delayed hiring of new positions and held some positions approved for hiring. Travel restrictions are in effect, and the agency has reduced the use of media services for recruitment.

Renewal Schedule

It is essential that the board move forward with fee increases at the earliest possible date in order to avoid escalating deficits, which must then be recouped by even higher fees. If the renewal fee for RN's is increased from \$95 to \$140 and the fee for LPN's was increased from \$95 to \$120 and if amended regulations were effective *by January, 2011*, the board's revenue could exceed expenditures with a very modest surplus (approximately \$103,000) by June 30, 2012.

Regulatory flexibility analysis

Please describe the agency's analysis of alternative regulatory methods, consistent with health, safety, environmental, and economic welfare, that will accomplish the objectives of applicable law while minimizing the adverse impact on small business. Alternative regulatory methods include, at a minimum: 1) the establishment of less stringent compliance or reporting requirements; 2) the establishment of less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements; 3) the consolidation or simplification of compliance or reporting requirements; 4) the establishment of performance standards for small businesses to replace design or operational standards required in the proposed regulation; and 5) the exemption of small businesses from all or any part of the requirements contained in the proposed regulation.

There are no alternative regulatory methods; the board has adopted fees that are expected to cover its expenditures through FY2014.

Public comment

Please summarize all comments received during public comment period following the publication of the NOIRA, and provide the agency response.

The Notice of Intended Regulatory Action was published on September 28, 2009 and sent to interested parties on the board's Public Participation Guidelines list. During the 30-day comment period, the only comment was received from the Legislative Coalition of Virginia Nurses, who wrote:

"Our organizational and individual members are fully supportive of the Board's assessing fees to cover its operational expenses. In considering all sources of fees to support the Board's work, we respectfully request that the Board consider the costs associated with approving and monitoring all educational programs for which the Board has statutory authority. We would ask that the Board consider whether fees should be increased for these educational program expenses.

We believe that all licensees and certificate holders should contribute toward the ongoing costs of discipline; however, we are concerned that licensees and certificate holders are being assessed fees that are not associated with the costs of maintaining a qualified licensed and certificated workforce."

The board concurred with the comment by analyzing the functions and associated costs for initial and ongoing approval of nursing education programs and by increasing or adding fees to offset costs that may be attributable to those functions.

Family impact

Please assess the impact of the proposed regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability including to what extent the regulatory action will: 1) strengthen or erode the authority and rights of parents in the education, nurturing, and supervision of their children; 2) encourage or discourage economic self-sufficiency, self-pride, and the assumption of responsibility for oneself, one’s spouse, and one’s children and/or elderly parents; 3) strengthen or erode the marital commitment; and 4) increase or decrease disposable family income.

The proposed regulatory action would not strengthen or erode the authority and rights of parents, encourage or discourage economic self-sufficiency, or strengthen or erode the marital commitment. There could be a very modest decrease in disposable family income depending on the amount and nature of the fee increase.

Detail of changes

Please detail all changes that are being proposed and the consequences of the proposed changes. If the proposed regulation is a new chapter, describe the intent of the language and the expected impact if implemented in each section. Please detail the difference between the requirements of the new provisions and the current practice or if applicable, the requirements of other existing regulations in place.

If the proposed regulation is intended to replace an emergency regulation, please list separately (1) all provisions of the new regulation or changes to existing regulations between the pre-emergency regulation and the proposed regulation, and (2) only changes made since the publication of the emergency regulation.

Current section number	Current requirement	Proposed change, rationale, and consequences
Chapter 20, Section 30	Sets out fees for application, renewal, reinstatement and other related fees.	<p>An application for initial licensure for an RN increases from \$130 to \$190, and for an LPN from \$130 to \$170.</p> <p><i>According to the Principles for Fee Development, adopted by the Department in 1999, the application fee should include the cost of one renewal, review and administrative cost for approval of an application, the cost for issuance of a license and a wall certification. The application fee for RN’s and LPN’s is calculated accordingly.</i></p> <p>The biennial renewal fee for an RN increases from \$95 to \$140, and for an LPN from \$95 to \$120.</p> <p><i>Renewal fees generally account for the majority of revenue for a board, and other fees are calculated in proportion to the renewal fee. Therefore, renewal fees must be set to produce sufficient revenue to offset projected expenditures. Currently, the RN and LPN renewal fees are equal, but RN’s are usually employed for higher salaries and often supervise LPN’s, so the board is proposing a differential in the fees it charges the two groups.</i></p> <p><i>By comparison with neighboring states (on an annualized basis), Virginia’s fee</i></p>

		<p>would be \$60 for an LPN – North Carolina is \$46, Kentucky is \$50, West Virginia is \$50, Maryland is \$55, Tennessee is \$75, and DC is \$50.50.</p> <p>The inactive fees are set at ½ the renewal fees and would be \$70 for an RN and \$60 for an LPN. The late fees are set at 1/3 of the renewal fee and would be \$50 for an RN and \$40 for an LPN. The fee for reinstatement of a lapsed license is inclusive of the renewal fee, late fee and administrative cost for review of an application; that fee is set at \$225 for an RN and \$200 for an LPN. Reinstatement after suspension or revocation necessitates an investigation prior to acting on a request, so the current fee of \$185 is increased to \$300 to offset costs incurred.</p> <p>Miscellaneous fees, including issuance of a duplicate license, provision of transcript of a record, replacement of a wall certificate and verification of licensure are increased by \$10 to offset actual administrative costs.</p> <p>Fees for clinical nurse specialist licensure (CNS) are increased as follows: initial application increase of \$35; biennial renewal increase of \$20; other fees are increased proportionally.</p> <p>Nursing education program fees</p> <p>Currently, the fee of \$1,200 for an application to establish a nursing education program is set out in section 40 of Chapter 20. In proposed regulations, the fee is set out in section 30 with other fees and is increased to \$1,650.</p> <p>A new fee for the board to conduct a survey visit of a nursing education program is established at \$2,200, and a new fee for a site visit triggered by the NCLEX passage rate for a nursing education program is established at \$1,500.</p> <p><i>In preparation of a review of all fees charged to applicants and regulants, the Board of Nursing convened an ad hoc committee to study and set out the average time spent in the processes associated with initial and continued approval of nursing education programs. Costs were calculated based on the time spent by staff in preparation of documents, review, travel to the site, and clerical supplies for mailing and compilation of documentation. The fees established in proposed regulations are specifically set in accordance with the findings of the ad hoc committee. Average costs associated with initial application and review of a new program totaled \$1,650. Average costs associated with a survey visit following graduation of the first class and a survey visit required for continued approval of an education program totaled \$2,206. Average costs associated with a site visit triggered by failure to meet the 80% passage rate for three consecutive years totaled \$1,564.</i></p> <p><i>Currently, the fee for starting a new nursing education program is \$10,000 in DC and \$2,000 in Kentucky; other border states are reviewing costs and considering adoption of such fees.</i></p>
<p>Chapter 20, Section 40</p>	<p>Sets out requirements for establishing a nursing education program.</p>	<p>The current application fee of \$1,200 is deleted and reference to the fee established in section 30 is added.</p>
<p>Chapter 20, Section 60</p>	<p>Sets out requirements for program approval</p>	<p>The fee for a survey visit required for program approval is specified and reference to the fee established in section 30 is added.</p>
<p>Chapter 20, Section 151</p>	<p>Sets out the requirement for meeting the passage rate on NCLEX</p>	<p>The fee for a site visit required for a program that falls below 80% for three consecutive years is specified and reference to the fee established in section 30 is added.</p>
<p>Chapter</p>	<p>Sets out requirements</p>	<p>The fee for a survey visit required for maintaining program approval is specified</p>

<p>20, Section 160</p>	<p>for maintaining a nursing education program</p>	<p>and reference to the fee established in section 30 is added.</p> <p>Additionally, a provision is added that makes failure to pay a required fee for a survey or site visit may subject the program to board action or withdrawal of board approval. <i>In order to ensure fees are paid as prescribed, there must be some enforcement mechanism included in regulations for program approval.</i></p>
<p>Chapter 25, Section 80</p>	<p>Sets out the requirements for renewal of certification for CNA's</p>	<p>The proposed regulations would change the renewal of certification from biennial to annual and the fee from \$50 biennially to \$30 annually, resulting in an increase of \$5 per year.</p> <p><i>The budget for the Certified Nurse Aide program is calculated separately from the Nursing budget, but the two budgets are combined for the purpose of expenditures and revenue reporting and projection. It is the escalating deficit in the CNA budget that has affected the need to increase fees at this time. At the end of FY09, the Nursing budget has a surplus of \$3,697,374, but the CNA budget has a shortfall of (\$1,864,160). Therefore, the cash balance in the combined budget for FY09 was \$1,833,214, but the shortfall in the combined budget projected for FY10 is (\$687,532).</i></p> <p><i>While the need to increase fees for CNA's was apparent, the board is cognizant of the pay scale for the profession and the potential impact of a significant increase to offset the shortfall between revenue and expenditures. The board is prohibited by federal law from charging someone to be put on the CNA Registry but has experienced increased reductions in federal funding for the Registry the CNA Registry has built a deficit of approximately \$2 million as revenue from federal programs has steadily decreased from \$1 million in FY04 to \$571,000 in FY09. , so the renewal fee is the only source of state revenue for the program.</i></p> <p><i>When regulations for the registration of medication aides were promulgated, the board chose to deviate from a biennial renewal in order to lessen the impact of a renewal fee. It was agreed that having an annual fee rather than biennial would be less burdensome for medication aides. With this proposed action, the board has adopted the same renewal schedule for CNA's and has proposed the same increase of \$5 for an annual renewal. Therefore, instead of paying \$50 each biennium, a certified nurse aide and a medication aide will pay \$30 each year.</i></p>
<p>Chapter 30, Section 50</p>	<p>Sets out fees for the licensure of nurse practitioners</p>	<p>The biennial renewal fee for nurse practitioners is increased from \$50 to \$80 with the late renewal and reinstatement fees increased proportionally. The application fee is increased by \$40 to include the increase in the renewal fee and the issuance of a license and wall certificate. Miscellaneous fees are consistent with those for the RN and LPN license.</p>
<p>Chapter 40, Section 70</p>	<p>Sets out fees for LNP's who have prescriptive authority</p>	<p>The fee for initial issuance is increased from \$50 to \$75, and the biennial renewal is increased from \$25 to \$35. Other fees are proportional and consistent.</p>
<p>Chapter 50, Section 30</p>	<p>Sets out fees for the certification of massage therapists</p>	<p>The fee for initial certification is increased from \$105 to \$140 to include the increase in the renewal fee and in the issuance of a certificate. The biennial renewal is increased by \$25 from \$70 to \$95. Other fees are proportional and consistent.</p>
<p>Chapter 60, Section 30</p>	<p>Sets out fees for the registration of medication aides</p>	<p>The annual renewal fee is increased from \$25 to \$30. While there is not a separate budget for medication aides as there is for nurse aides, the board is aware that the number of disciplinary cases for medication aides has added to its costs for investigation, enforcement, administrative proceedings, and board member time.</p>